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Dear Vice President Al Gore:

Enclosed is the basic highlights of a work program to place thousands, or perhaps millions of Americans to work within almost every county of every state throughout the U.S.A.. My hope is you and President Clinton will put your heads together and brainstorm this proposal prior to presenting it to others. I call it the "DRY CREEK WORK PROGRAM", or "D.C.W.P.". I feel President Clinton and yourself would need to take charge until the program is functional, that is if you are in favor of this program.

FINANCING: Construction workers pay could come directly, or indirectly from federal & state flood disaster relief funds which would surface as surplus once dry creeks begin protecting cities and townships from floods. Additional funds could indirectly come from fire-storm disaster relief once dry creeks are converted to all season streams in fire-storm areas. Initially this may be a program which may cost money, but in the long it will save billions in flood relief funds, save our low lying cities, create more irrigation water and financially balance out, leaving us with abundant water resources plus agricultural jobs.

The huge floods of 1993 came from thousands of square miles of non-controlled rain basins at higher elevations. In almost all cases, these rain collection areas are dry creek beds that you and I can walk thru in the summer months without getting our feet wet. The floods seen from aircraft looked huge, but in reality the flooded areas were approximately one-tenth of the land mass that collected the storm water to cause the flood.

By slowing the dry creek flash flood sources down by 50% or even 90% by installing small earthen dams, in every state we can duplicate 10 times over the Paradise created by Mr. Fred Leighton in the following paragraph. But as it is today, once these remote thousands of square miles become rain saturated, these dry creeks cascade an entire storm system into all season streams and rivers in less than 24 hours after a storm passes through. For each all season stream we can safely say we have 50 dry creeks supplying it excess run-off water in winter & spring.

A few decades ago (between 1920 & 1940) Mr. Fred Leighton (deceased) and his work crew built some 16 small dams from rock & mortar on dry creeks in California's Emigrant Wilderness (112,300 acres) in

the Stanislaus National Forest (photo copies of the dams are enclosed). Today this once barren area supports many all season trout streams & lakes, nearly as popular as Yosemite National Park.

The importance of Mr. Leighton's undertaking; This area no longer stampedes storm flood water thru the area to lower elevations, thus it has automatic control over flash floods. The second most important part of Mr. Leighton's undertaking; When coming into summer instead of dry creek beds, he has fish supporting all season streams & lakes supplying irrigation water for lower elevations thru mid & late summer and into fall. Please keep in mind, this is fresh water still on the mainland, not already lost to the ocean, or in the process of flooding some city, or township.

Once a dry creek has its new earthen dams, envision youth teams such as the California Conservation Corps doing yearly maintenance, checking flow pipes, dam overflows and dams prior to each rain season. Here is a real opportunity to take troubled youths from cities, give them a shovel in place of a gun as they take pride in giving America additional irrigation and flood controlled streams. Also people of all ages who are naturalist and environmentally orientated who would love to donate their time to yearly maintenance. They would tackle this task knowing the new source of mid & late summer irrigation water will open up new farm land, new recreation along the new stream itself, new timber, increased wildlife, more new fish and providing existing streams & rivers with larger & colder mid & late summer flows.

In Texas on July 17, 1987, 43 church camp youths were swept away when their school bus stalled in the fast rising Guadalupe River. It was remarkable that 33 were saved, but 10 died. If small dry creek dams had been in place at the higher elevations, not one life would have been lost, because most of that flood water would have been held in the higher elevations and the Guadalupe River would have been flowing at a safe rate. Through use of dry creek controls this can become true for every river in the U.S. including the Mississippi.

**RAPID DEFORESTATION:** Halting the logging industry is not the answer. As of 100 years ago, worldwide forests (including North America) had depleted 2%. Today the same forests have depleted 8%. This has got-to-be alarming due to over 100 years ago the total forests covered only 34% of the world's total land mass. Today it is down to 26%. Dry creeks converted to all season streams will support new timber and equally important, it will build & enhance new forest ecosystems. We can buffer against greenhouse warming, prevent floods & droughts and oxygenate our atmosphere with millions of new trees (timber). We can convert millions of acres of barren dry creek land into productive land and still support our regulated logging industry.

It should be noted, the "Tropical Timber Agreement", the "International Tropical Timber Organization" and "The United Nations' Statement of Forest Principles" in my estimation have not been effective. I base that on the fact that worldwide forests continue to diminish. Converting dry creeks to all season streams would be a positive improvement by supporting timber in new remote area along with new ecosystems.

In President Clinton's National "State of the Union" address, he made a brief remark on water & water purification. Envision thousands of dry creeks as they are today carrying mud & silt by the tons into all season streams, rivers and existing reservoirs. Now envision the same dry creeks converted to all season streams flanked with green grass, willows, timber trees and running clean pristine water. Or, ecosystems with water in abundance and a 95% cut in mud & silt erosion.

You may be wondering why I did not send this letter to the Department of the Interior? To me the structure of this office is somewhat identical to the Bureau of Reclamation here in California, California's Department of Water Resources and California's Water Resources Control Board. Over the years the only answers I received back was through my complaining to my Congressmen. What I'm trying to say is; I have been trying to float my water program up-stream thru layers of bureaucracies and it falls thru the cracks. My hope this time, with your help, is to float it down-stream for the good of the people.

Mr. Vice President; I realize this is a short letter when compared to the massive work program it entails and many questions are not answered. Such as; Perhaps each county should have a new office to work directly with earthen dam construction contractors, administering Federal & State requirements of the D.C.W.P.!? Or, how do we engage the private land owner!?, etc. etc.. However, I assure you beneficial answers are available on all questions. I could write books on this system, but why waste your time and mine if you and President Clinton are not interested!!?? Opposition: You bet, but I feel this is a project worth fighting for.

Who is Ellsworth Rose: A 60 year old Democrat, an Army veteran of the Korean War who is now retired after 40.5 years of service in an engineering office with the State of California. My wife Margaret & I have five adult children and four grand children.

In closing I would like to say; U.S.A. has the water, all we need to do is control it. All earthen dam sites would occur far from existing all season streams & rivers. Perhaps we can build a pilot project!? However, I consider the Emigrant Wilderness as the ideal existing pilot project and (to me) its lost motion to re-invent the wheel.  
I stand ready to devote myself to aid you and President Clinton with this work program.

I pray I have inspired your  
interest in this proposal!

Most Sincerely,

*Ellsworth Rose*

P.S. Please read the enclosed "BENEFITS OF DRY CREEK CONTROLS".

WATER FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE:

One acre foot of water squared (to the nearest foot) is 35ft. X 35ft. X 35ft. high. Or, approximately the size of a 4300 square foot one story house.